



# PUBLIC NOTICE

Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC)  
Wastewater Discharge Authorization Program  
555 Cordova Street  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

## NOTICE OF PROPOSED ISSUANCE OF AN ALASKA POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (APDES) INDIVIDUAL PERMIT TO DISCHARGE TO WATERS OF THE UNITED STATES

A Fact Sheet and associated documents are available for review. For inquiries or to request copies of documents, contact:

**DEC Contact:**

**Renee Evans**  
**555 Cordova Street**  
**Anchorage, Alaska 99501**  
**907-269-7568**  
**[renee.evans@alaska.gov](mailto:renee.evans@alaska.gov)**

**Draft Permit Public Notice Period**

Public Notice Start Date: March 18, 2015

Public Notice Expiration Date: April 17, 2015

**Permit Number: AK0053708**

**Applicant:**

Niblack Project LLC  
c/o Heatherdale Resources Ltd.  
1040 W Georgia Street, 15<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Vancouver, BC V6E 4H1

**Proposed Project and Location:**

The Niblack Project LLC owns and operates a wastewater treatment facility that is located at 55°4'0.2778" North and 132°8'39.555" West on Prince of Wales Island. The project is currently comprised of approximately 2500 feet, with the possible expansion up to 6000 feet, of underground drift development to provide access for continued exploration drilling on the Lookout and Mammoth massive sulfide mineral zones. Metals in the massive sulfide mineralization include copper, zinc, gold, and silver. Wastewater consists of approximately 291 gallons per minute (gpm) of water draining from the exploration drift portal and 9 gpm of runoff water from a potentially acid generating rock pile. The wastewater is treated through settling ponds and will then be discharged into Niblack Anchorage. The APDES permit would allow for the discharge of treated wastewater at

a maximum rate of 300 gallons per minute into Niblack Anchorage. A mixing zone, that is approximately 8.34 meters in length and has a total width of 3.08 meters, is proposed for copper, lead, mercury, nickel, and zinc.

**Tentative Determination:**

DEC has tentatively determined to issue a discharge permit to the above listed applicant.

**Public Comments:**

Written comments or requests for a public hearing on the APDES draft permit must be submitted within 30 days of the issuance of this public notice. Please direct written comments and requests to the attention of Renee Evans at the address or email identified above. All comments should include the name, address, and telephone number of the commenter and a concise statement of comment on the permit condition(s) and the relevant facts upon which the comment is based. Comments of either support or concern that are directed at specific, cited permit requirements are appreciated. Mailed comments and requests must be postmarked on or before the expiration date of the public notice.

DEC will consider all comments when making the final decision, and will respond to received comments in a Response to Comments document issued when DEC issues a final permit. The Response to Comments will be made available to the public.

Any interested person may submit a written request for a public hearing if no hearing has already been scheduled. A request for a public hearing shall state the nature of the issues to be raised, as well as the requester's name, address and telephone number. DEC will hold a public hearing whenever DEC finds, on the basis of requests, a significant degree of public interest in a draft permit. DEC may also hold a public hearing if a hearing might clarify one or more issues involved in a permit decision or for other good reason in DEC's discretion.

DEC will transmit the final permit, fact sheet (amended as appropriate), and Response to Comments to anyone who provided comments during the public review period or requested to be notified of DEC final decision.

**DEADLINE FOR WRITTEN COMMENTS OR REQUEST FOR PUBLIC HEARING:**

**April 17th at 5:00 p.m.**

**Administrative Record:**

The APDES draft permit, fact sheet, permit application, and associated documents are available for public review at the DEC offices located in Anchorage, Fairbanks, Juneau, Soldotna, and Wasilla. Please contact the office of your choice to arrange for hard copies of the documents to be available for your review.

555 Cordova Street  
**Anchorage**, AK 99501  
907-269-6285

610 University Avenue  
**Fairbanks**, AK 99709  
907-451-2100

410 Willoughby Ave #303  
**Juneau**, AK 99811  
907-465-5300

The documents are also accessible from the DEC website at:

<http://www.dec.state.ak.us/water/wwdp/index.htm>

To receive email notifications about the APDES Program, including when permits are available to review, follow the link below to join the APDES email list.

[http://dec.alaska.gov/water/npdes/npdes\\_email\\_list.htm](http://dec.alaska.gov/water/npdes/npdes_email_list.htm)

### **Disability Reasonable Accommodation Notice**

The State of Alaska, Department of Environmental Conservation complies with Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. If you are a person with a disability who may need a special accommodation in order to participate in this public process, please contact Natalie Wolfe at (907) 269-0291 or TDD Relay Service 1-800-770-8973/TTY or dial 711 within 30 days of publication of this notice to ensure that any necessary accommodations can be provided.